

## Appendix I

## West Side Demographic Change; 1990 to 2000

The 1990 U.S. Census showed the West Side of St. Paul to be a diverse community. The community comprised about 6% of the total St. Paul population, 15,207 of 272,235. The West Side has historically been a cultural center for Hispanic residents in the Twin Cities. This is demonstrated through the various Hispanic establishments, notably restaurants and grocery stores. Of the 10,318 Hispanic persons living in St. Paul in 1990, 3,240 (31%) lived on the West Side comprising 21% of the West Side population. Most of the West Side's residents of Hispanic origin claimed Mexico as a country of origin (2,715). The racial distribution of persons on the West Side not of Hispanic origin was split between;

- White, 10,034 (66%)
- Black, 417 (3%)
- Indian, 338 (2%)
- Asian, 1,156 (8%)
- Other, 22 (<1%).

A detailed description of the changes over the last 10 years cannot be comprehensively updated until the release of the 2000 Census. However, it is possible to describe change through the use of administrative data sources. These data sources include the school district and the county assessor, as well as population projections from the Metropolitan Council and the State Demographer's Office. The most helpful source is public school data. This data includes all public school students with each record reporting the following: an address, grade, race, home language, gender, and eligibility for free or reduced-price lunch.

As with most data sets, there are a variety of shortcomings associated with school data. The greatest drawback is that it counts only those between the ages of 5 and 17. It is possible that changes observed in student demographics are not representative of the entire community. While this is a concern, students do not live independent of households or families. An increase in Hispanic students is due to either new families with school-age children moving into the West Side, or current families that now have a child or additional children old enough to attend school. A couple of factors help mitigate the possibility that the overall population trends differ widely from the school data. One, the West Side is not a large geographic area and it is well defined by the Mississippi River and the border with West Saint Paul. Two, the West Side is largely built up

so that there has not been a great increase or decrease in the available housing units. Three, there have been no large dislocations due to new immigration, natural disasters, or economic hardship.

The data used for this analysis is St. Paul public school student records from 1991-92, 1997-98, 1998-99, and 1999-00. While the data is similar for each year, there are some differences. The file from 1991-92 does not include any free or reduced-price lunch status. Also, the 1999-00 file does not contain complete data on free and reduced-price lunch status.

Citywide, the student population has increased over the last 10 years. There were 43,361 **public and non-public** students within the city in 1991-92. By 1999-00 this had increased to 52,676 students, a growth of 21 percent. Additionally, the non-white population has increased while their white counterparts actually lost population (21,280 in 1991-92 versus 18,602 in 1999-00).<sup>1</sup> In 1991-92, white students comprised 58 percent of the student population. By 1999-00, white students comprised only 38% of Saint Paul's student population.

The West Side demographics appear to have changed as significantly as the citywide population. Overall, the West Side student population grew from 2,372 public school students in 1991-92 to 2,760 students in 1999-00, a rate of increase (16%) slightly lower than the city as a whole. The increased diversity of the city was mirrored on the West Side. Non-white students increased from 1,422 in 1991-92 to 2,085 in 1999-00. The non-white population increased as a percent as well, starting at 60 percent in 1991-92 and now comprising 75 percent of the West Side student population. The white population has declined from 950 students to 675. The fastest growing race between 1991 and 2000 is Hispanic, from 625 to 1,011, an increase of 62 percent. The next fastest growth rates are:

- Black 47% (255 to 374)
- Indian 34% (53 to 71)
- Asian, 29% (489 to 629).

One of the largest barriers to community policing present in both the city and the West Side is the large number of languages spoken and the large percentage of households that speak English as a second language. It is not possible to know the level of English proficiency in households that speak English as a second language. However, each one represents a possible communication

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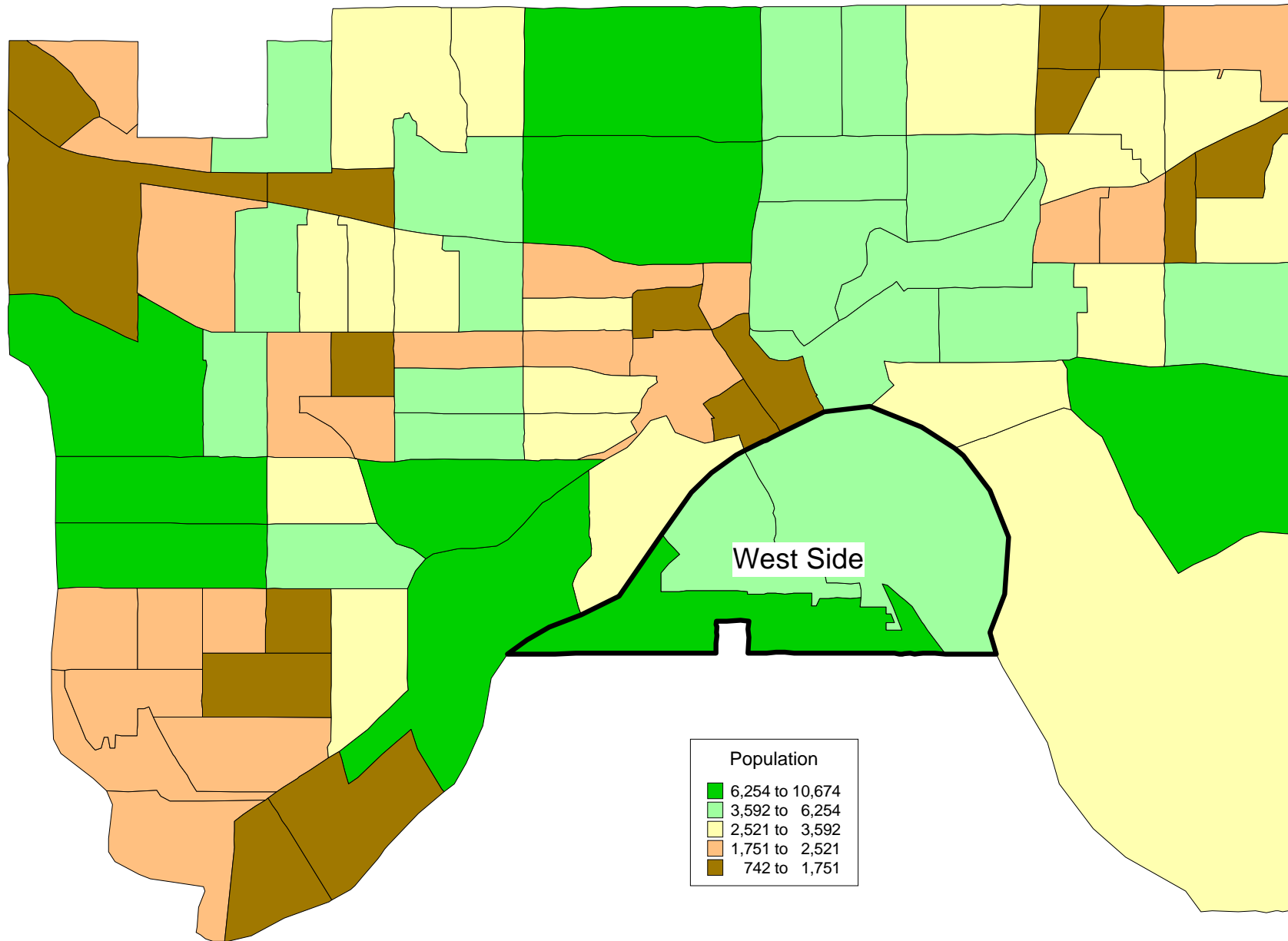
<sup>1</sup> Some non-public student records did not include racial data. The numbers and percents represent only students for which racial data was available.

barrier. In 1991-92, 18 languages were represented on the West Side and 45 were present in St. Paul. By 1999-00, 13 languages were represented on the West Side and 57 were present in St. Paul. The decrease in languages represented on the West Side is not indicative of a trend but simply a few isolated cases, such as Italian, Icelandic, or French. The two languages most common after English on the West Side were Spanish and Hmong. Spanish was spoken by 371 students in 1991-92 and 716 in 1999-00. Hmong was spoken by 355 students in 1991-92 and 495 in 1999-00.

Some additional considerations should be taken into account. Not only has there been a marked shift towards more West Side households where English is a second language, but it is possible that the West Side is a gateway community, particularly for Hispanic immigrants. This would mean that not only have the overall demographics shifted, but also the community faces a higher than normal turnover in households. Over the next 5 to 10 years, the numbers and percentages may stay relatively stable, but that could mask the transient nature of some of the households. This is a consideration for any community policing approach that emphasizes personal connections within the West Side. It would be a challenge to the officers on the street to identify and relate to new members of a community with frequent population turnover.

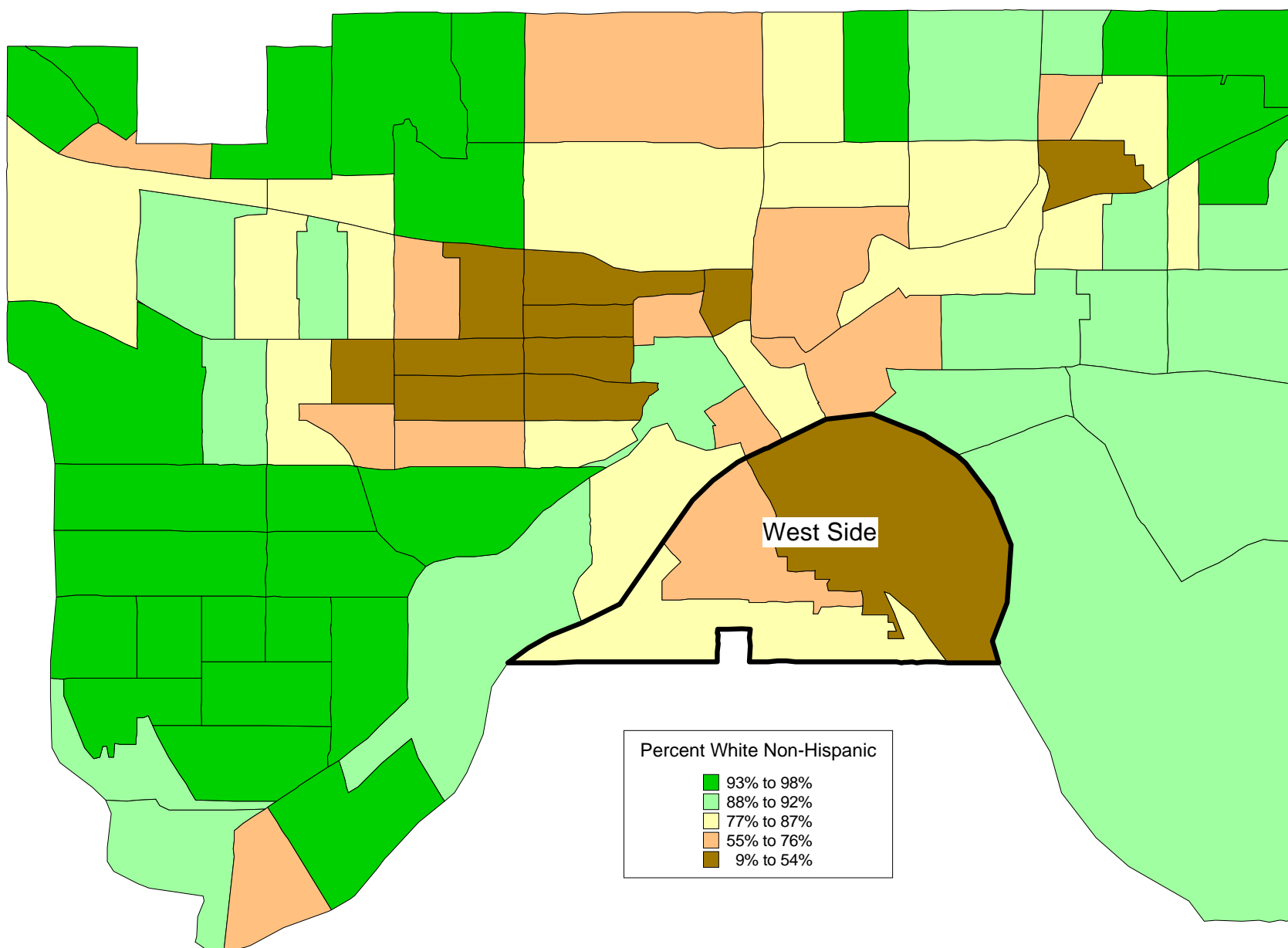
# 1990 Population

## By Sub-Planning District



# 1990 Population by Race/Ethnicity

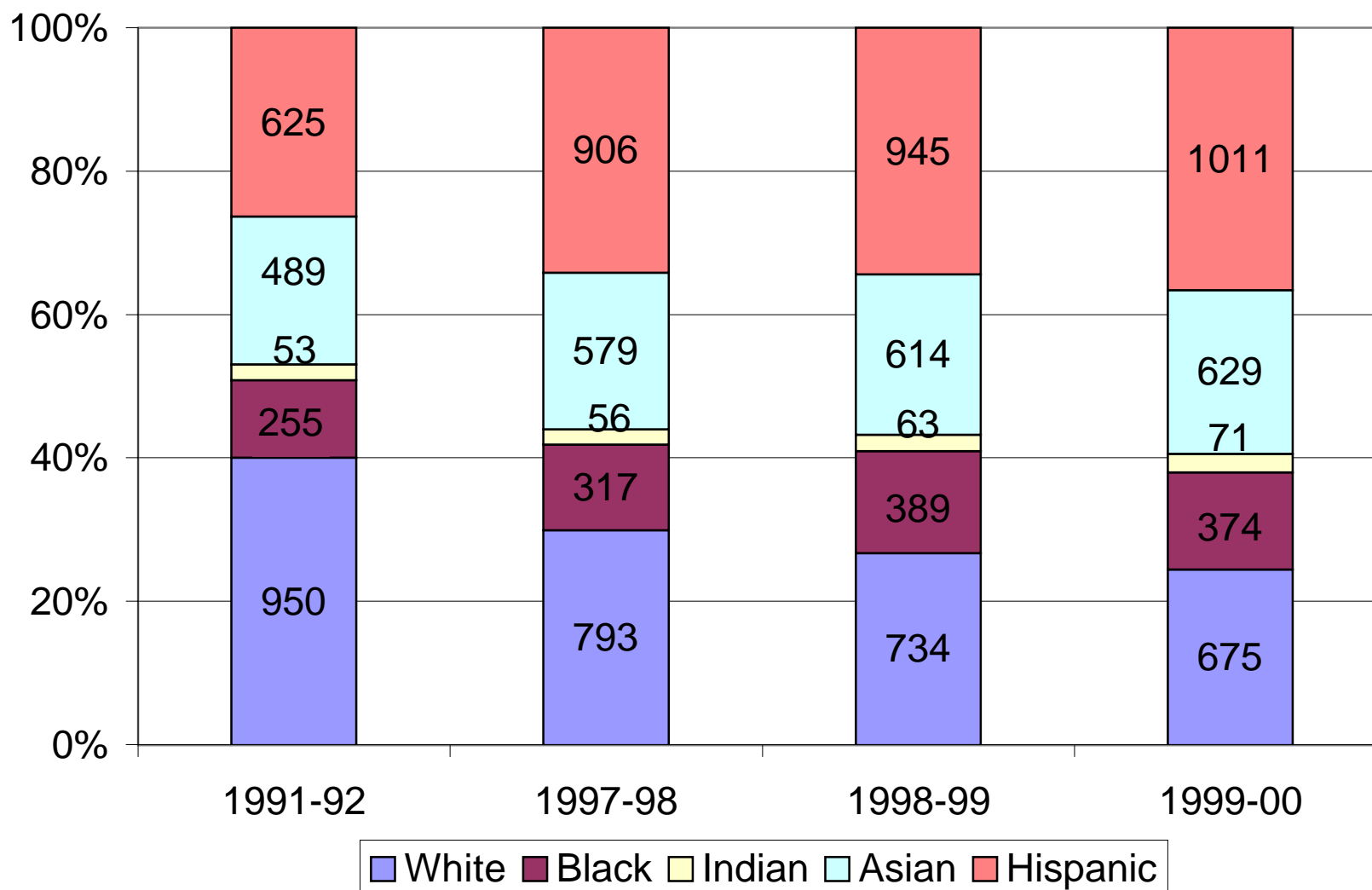
## By Sub-Planning District, Percent White Non-Hispanic



# West Side Streets

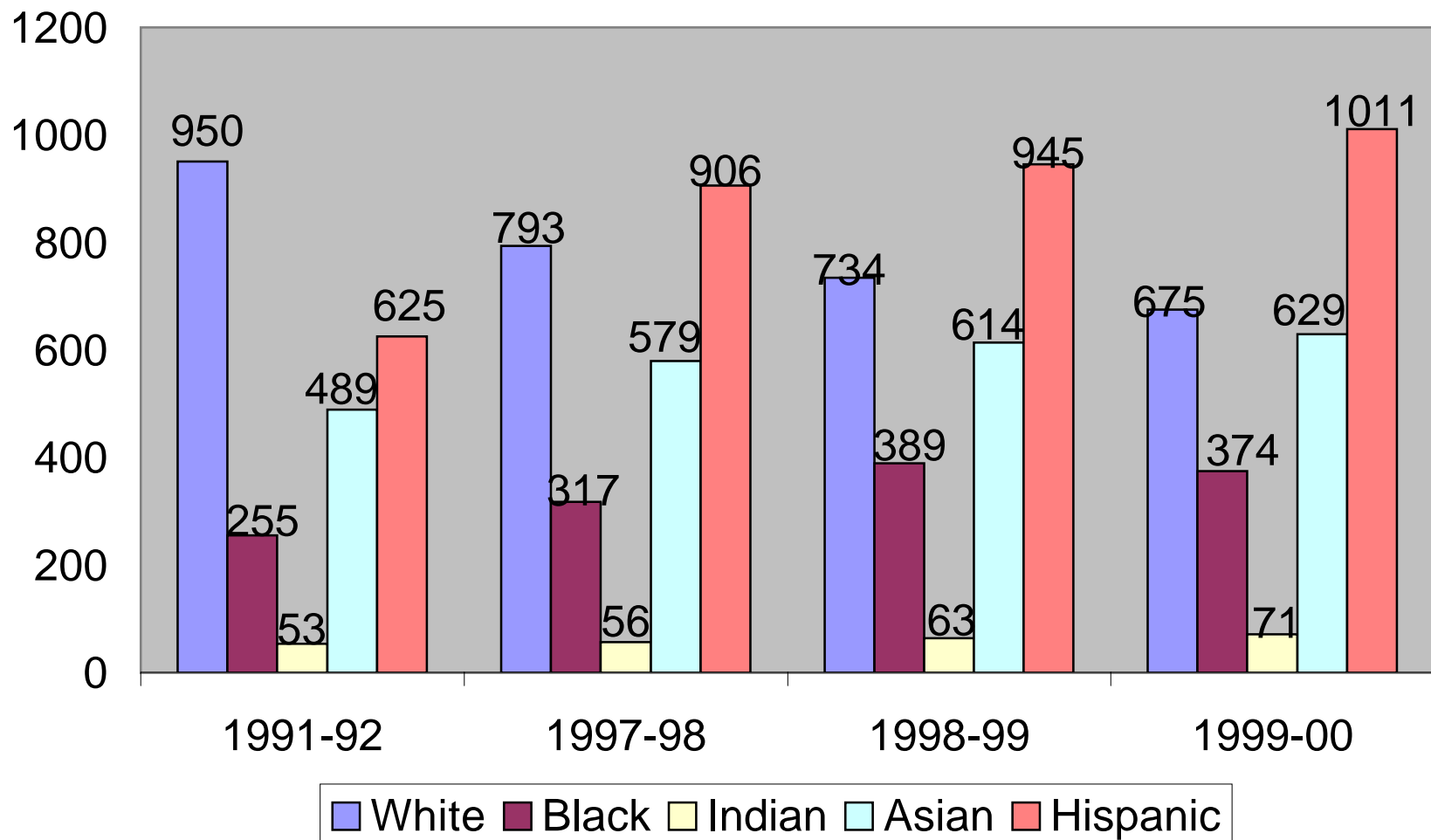


## West Side Student Race and Ethnicity

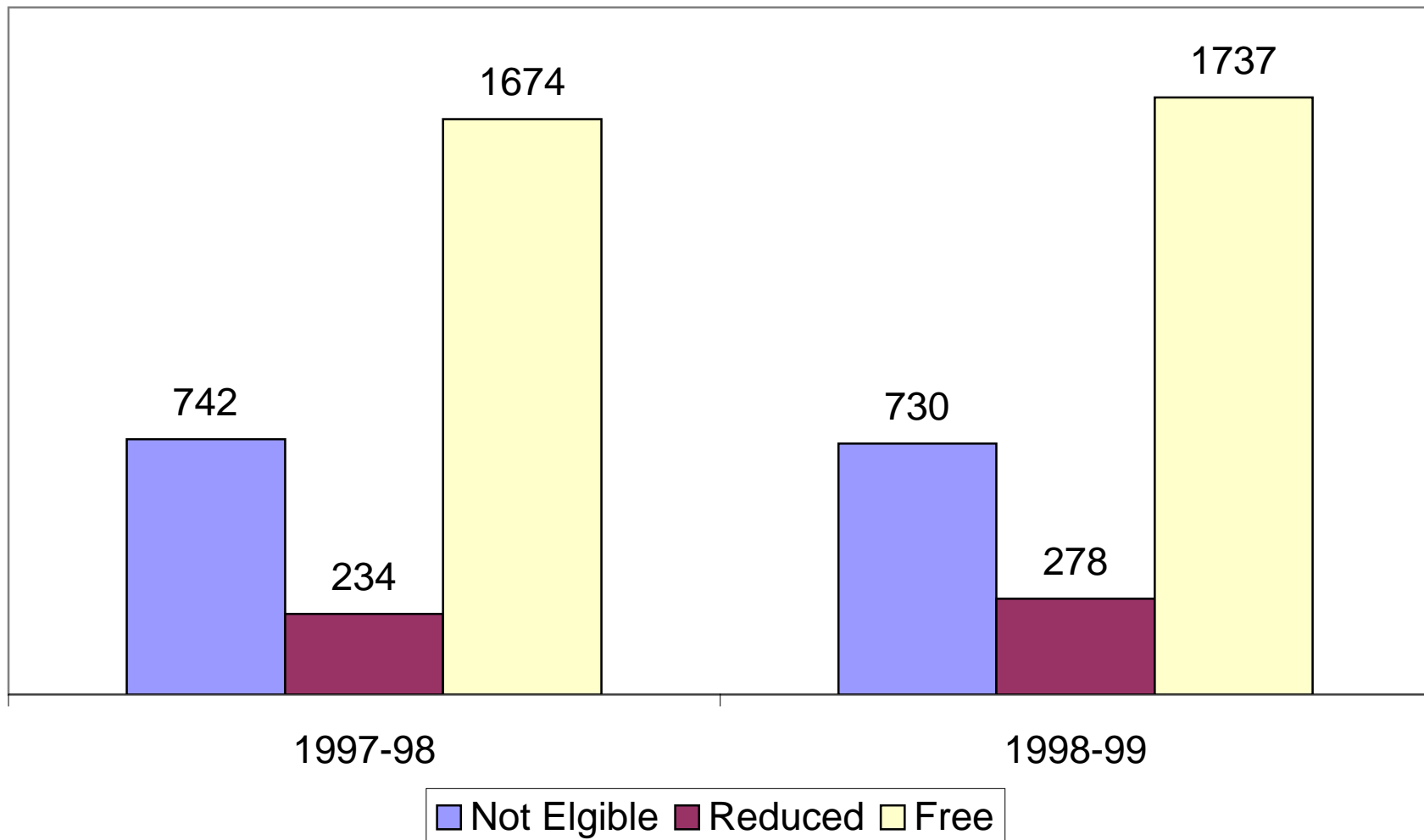




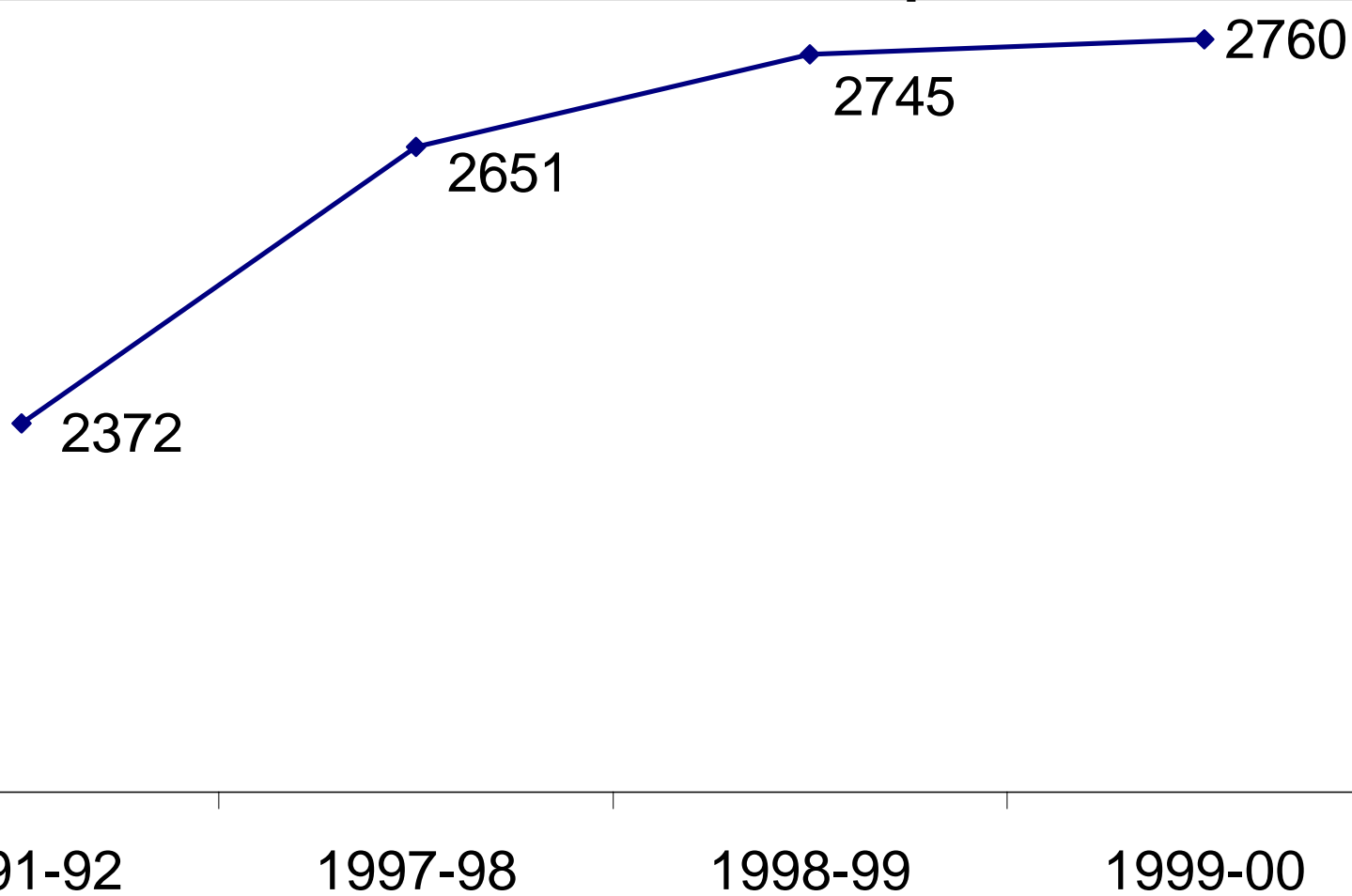
## Change in Race and Ethnicity among public school students on Saint Paul's West Side



## Change in Eligibility for Free and Reduced-price Lunch

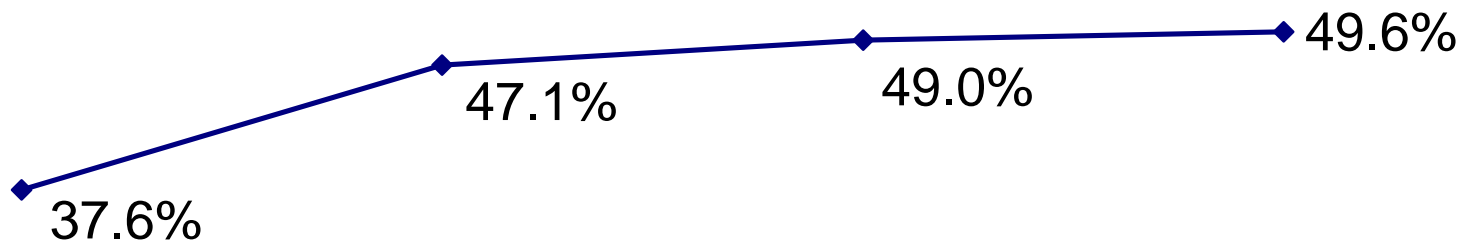


## West Side Public School Population



—◆— Total

## West Side Households where English is a Second Language



1991-92

1997-98

1998-99

1999-00

—◆— ESL